The
Niagara Advance
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Thursday, January 28, 2016

Uber fan wants more NOTL drivers 8

Safety committee looking after us 22

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Just chillin'

FRED MERCNIK/SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Kathy, Janet and Ron Bowman enjoy the bar at Niagara-on-the-Lake's Icewine Village on Queen Street and a glass of the celebrated icewine Saturday. The Icewine Village continues this week, wrapping up Sunday. For story see Page 2.

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NOTL icewine festival 'chilly but sweet'

JULIE JOCSAK/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

People check out the ice bar at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Icewine Festival that takes over Queen Street for two weekends. Guests sip Niagara's finest ice wine, enjoy cuisine from local chefs and listen to live music.

JULIE JOCSAK
STANDARD STAFF

Mother nature decided to throw icewine lovers a bone this weekend.

"It's fantastic," said Janice Thomson, executive director of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce.

"We were blessed with this weather. It is cold enough to be winter but warm enough to be comfortable for people to stay out for a little period of time."

This weekend saw Queen Street in the Old Town turned into an "icewine village" for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Icewine Festival.

"Our numbers are good, our volume of visitors is tremendous," said Thomson.

So much so, that some of the restaurants ran out of food on Saturday and were left scrambling to stock up for Sunday. Discovery Pass sales were also up this year.

Continued Page 3

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JULIE JOCSAK/PDSTMEDIA NETWDRK

Emma Duran and Niilo Schonfeld get a photo taken by an ice sculpture.

Icewine festivities continue this weekend in NOTL

Continued From Page 2

"When people are here, they are asking how can I get to the wineries, what else I can do, so we are referring people out to the wineries and they are seeing record numbers at the wineries. It's terrific," said Thomson.

Tom Gillie was enjoying the experience by relaxing by one of the fire pits on Queen Street.

"We are Canadian, the only ones crazy enough to sit in the cold and sip ice wine," he said with a laugh.

Added friend Norm Booi, "We were here when it was –10."

Goran Andjolkovic shared the sentiment, that no weather would keep him away.

"Chilly but sweet," he said when asked about the festival.

"We were here in –9, I was hoping it would be closer to zero."

The festival continues with the White on Ice dinner Thursday. Between 7 p.m and 10 p.m., a large, heated tent will be set up outdoors in the icewine village. Guests will be treated to six "micro-meals from" six different chefs. Guests will dine at a harvest table and will be able to enjoy live music and dancing in the streets.

"I know it will be fun because we did it last year and it was really popular," said Thomson.

Next weekend, the festival's smaller tents will be replaced by one large tent a block down the street for the Shop, Sip, Sample and Savour event. Guests will have a chance to taste the region's icewine, sample cuisine from the Signature Kitchens of Niagara-on-the-Lake and indulge in some retail therapy from the shops of the Heritage District.

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FRED MERCNIK/SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Cory Gillen of Jackson Triggs pours a glass of icewine at the Icewine Village in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The festivities continue this week, with the village open until Sunday. The Icebreakers Comedy Festival runs from Thursday, Jan. 28 to Saturday, Jan. 30, and Shop, Sip, Sample and Savour on Queen Street Saturday and Sunday offers culinary and icewine treats.

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Coyote hunting concerns rural residents

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

It's coyote hunting season, and the guns are out in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Sandra Marynissen discovered that when she was driving to her Line 6 home from working out last week, and found the road blocked by a truck, several more lining the shoulder, hunters setting out to kill a fewcoyotes between Concessions 6 and 7.

Shooting coyotes is legal during hunting season in certain areas of Niagara-on-the-Lake, and the town has maps showing the boundaries.

That doesn't mean Marynissen has to like it - coming from a grape-growing family, she would prefer to see the animals left to live in peace, eating the rodents that do so much damage to vineyard roots.

She's had hunters on her land in the past - she has two dogs and two children, and called the police - although this time, she wasn't sure who owned the wood lot where they were hunting. She pulled over and asked if they had permission from the property owner, and they said they did.

"Someone has to be the voice of the coyote," she said, although the hunters laugh at her concern.

"This has been going on for years, but the coyotes have a right to live here," she added.

"It's not fair to the coyotes, and I don't think it's fair to those of us who live here."

Sometimes hunters let their dogs chase down a coyote, and they follow in trucks - she's seen them shoot from a truck window without even getting out, she says.

"It doesn't seem very sportsmanlike to me."

Grape growers like having coyotes around, but chicken farmers don't - some leaving their dead chickens out to attract both the coyotes and the hunters, said Leslie Sampson of Coyote Watch, who has been educating people about living in harmony with the animals for more than two decades.

While the hunt is legal, there are aspects to it that may not be, she said.

Hunters are only allowed within certain boundaries, and not on private property that is posted, she said. Ministry of Natural Resources will ensure hunters stay within the boundaries and have the proper licences and weapons, but they don't always show up in time. Residents should make sure to get vehicle licence numbers, she said.

Continued Page 5

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Sat Jan 30 @ 3pm
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PHOTO SUPPLIED

Hunters take to the fields between Concessions 6 and 7 in Niagara-on-the-Lake, looking for coyotes.

Call police if safety is an issue

Continued From Page 4

Marynissen objects to how close hunters can come to homes where there are children and pets.

Sampson says she's also concerned about the farm workers she's seen in vineyards, hunters with their guns close by. It's probably time for the municipality to look at its antiquated boundaries, set years ago, she said.

Staff Sgt. John Curran of the Niagara Regional Police agrees perhaps it's time to redraw the maps.

The police get calls from residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake about hunters, usually because of a concern they're too close to private property, and he says officers will respond.

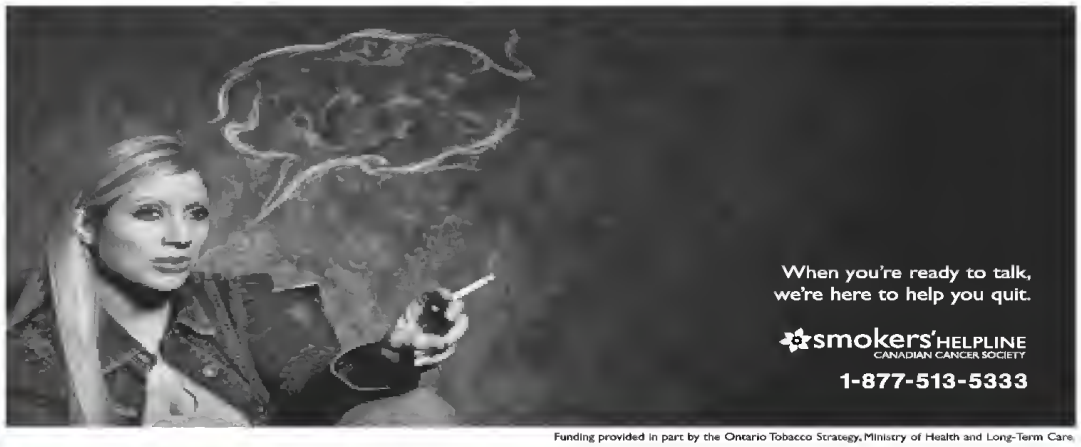
If residents have any safety concerns or if they ask hunters to leave private property and they don't, it's time to call the police, he said. They must also have hunting and gun licences - the police will check - and only certain types of rifles can be used.

Residents in rural areas should post their property with no trespassing and no hunting signs, he added.

Holly Dowd, director of corporate services, says the map of hunting boundaries, first made in 1970, is updated as communities grow.

The map, last updated in 2008, can be viewed athttp://notl.org/content/licences-certificates.

Coyote Watch Niagara can be reached at (905) 931-2610.



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The Niagara Advance

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Point of View

Beating Alzheimer's is the fight of our lives

As Alzheimer Month draws to a close, it's important to remember prevention must be a priority, both in government funding and in our own lifestyle choices.

The Alzheimer Society of Canada states that in 2011, nearly 750,000 Canadians were living with Alzheimer's or some other dementia. That's 14.9 per cent of Canadians who are 65 or older.

By 2031, if nothing changes, the number of those afflicted is expected to rise to 1.4 million.

The same report, available at alzheimer.ca, says the disease is costing Canada $33 billion a year now through medical costs and lost earnings. By 2040 — again, if nothing changes — that could rise to $240 billion.

The key phrase here, of course, is 'if nothing changes.'

We can't let 'nothing' happen.

Families are already devastated by Alzheimer's.

When one member has it, it affects everyone around them through medical and caregiving costs.

Lives go through upheaval as schedules are rearranged to accommodate the person's needs, and it's profoundly sad to watch a loved one slip away one day at a time.

Public awareness of Alzheimer's is relatively recent, but the disease was actually identified in 1906. Deposits of plaque grow throughout the brain and become toxic to brain cells, and so-called 'tangles' choke the cells, causing them to die off.

To continue to fund research isn't enough; increasing that funding must be a government priority.

The Alzheimer Society says there are things you can do, too, to protect yourself. Be active and choose a healthy diet, reduce stress and be socially engaged. And exercise your brain by learning a new language or playing strategy games like chess.

There's no ignoring Alzheimer's disease.

Its numbers are growing, and it is coming for you or someone you love.

Music to warm the soul

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Guests experienced an electrifying performance by the Juno award-winning Dominic Mancuso Group in a transormed Court House in NOTL, presented by Bravo Niagara! and the NOTL Chamber of Commerce as part of icewine festivities.

Letters to the Editor

READER PRAISES PARADE

Last December, my mother, granddaughter and I made our traditional girls' weekend trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake. They live in Southern Ontario and I had flown in from Northern Alberta to join them. For this trip, we had timed it to see all the Christmas lights at the Falls as well as the Santa Claus Parade in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The parade fell on my mum's birthday so it was an added little bonus as we had never seen it before.

We positioned ourselves near the start of the parade and waited for it to start. And what a parade it was. It was wonderful. It truly reflected the community and we were pleasantly surprised at the number of entries. It had something from every corner of the community; so inclusive, though the notable lack of blatant commercialism was a welcome omission.

It was refreshing to see so many community and non-profit groups, schools and locally owned businesses involved as well as all the historic entries, even the vintage fire trucks from both sides of the border. And it was a friendly parade as many people involved were not removed from the crowd riding on floats, but rather walking the route and talking to the people along it.

To bear all the bands playing Christmas music was a perfect addition even though my eight-year-old grand-daughter occasionally sighed that her great-grandmother was embarrassing her by dancing to the festive tunes.

However, she was delighted to receive so many treats from parade participants. The candy canes and chocolates were delicious, the pear slices a tasty alternative and we even received a deck of playing cards from the hydro company with lots of interesting educational trivia.

Thank you to all who organized this parade and to all those who participated in it. It truly was a community Christmas parade and so wonderful to watch. We thoroughly enjoyed it.

CAROL CHRISTIAN
FORT MCMURRAY, AB.

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OUR LETTERS POLICY

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Please keep your comments to a maximum of 500 words.
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Comment

Doctors, like pilots and drivers, must take exams as they age

Exam day was Dec. 16.

When you're 76, except for that looming driver's test at age 80 there aren't many compulsory exams. But there I was, the subject of an examination in my part-time office at McMaster talking about how I would handle this or that case before an examiner appointed by the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons. For the examination I had to submit examples of my clinical notes on patients I had seen in Hamilton and Thunder Bay, over which on this day, the examiner, a neurologist from Toronto, poured for two hours before inviting me into the office and querying me on some points related to the notes and my practice.

It was a very friendly but business-like affair in which over the next hour and a half we covered a lot of ground. You'll be glad to learn, as I certainly was, that my clinical notes, examinations, use of laboratory tests, management, follow ups and use of medications were all up to scratch – indeed I was considered to be "an exemplary physician, scientist and scholar, who gets better with age" and "a credit to the profession and a huge asset to the province."

I thought the last was a little over the top but rather liked the part about getting better with age. After all I do live in wine country and as with some wines, I like to believe - or is that more a hope – that if not in our knees, hips and memory, we all get better in some fashion with age.

You may or may not know it but all physicians 70 years of age and over, must be assessed by an examiner appointed by the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons every five years. This was my third assessment because shortly after I came back from the US I had to go through a similar exam – possibly because the Ontario College thought that I might have lost my edge in a foreign territory such as Boston.

I can't say I've entirely enjoyed the experience every time because there are the natural worries that go with any exam and a certain amount of prep time is necessary to get all the material together for the examiner.

The other examination, which has been a regular for many years but which I'm behind on now, is the biannual instrument check ride with an examiner in the right seat. The Canadian Department of Transport for many years required Canadian Instrument pilots to undergo a flight check where everything from flight planning, to in-flight assessments of my ability to fly various types of instrument approaches and sort my way through simulated emergencies, were tested. The test pilots were seasoned veterans including our own widely experienced Conrad Hatcher at the St. Catharines Flying club. Without exception I always learned from him and other examiners and that's the way it should be in flying, medicine and any other professional endeavor where periodic check rides or the equivalent in practice should be the norm.

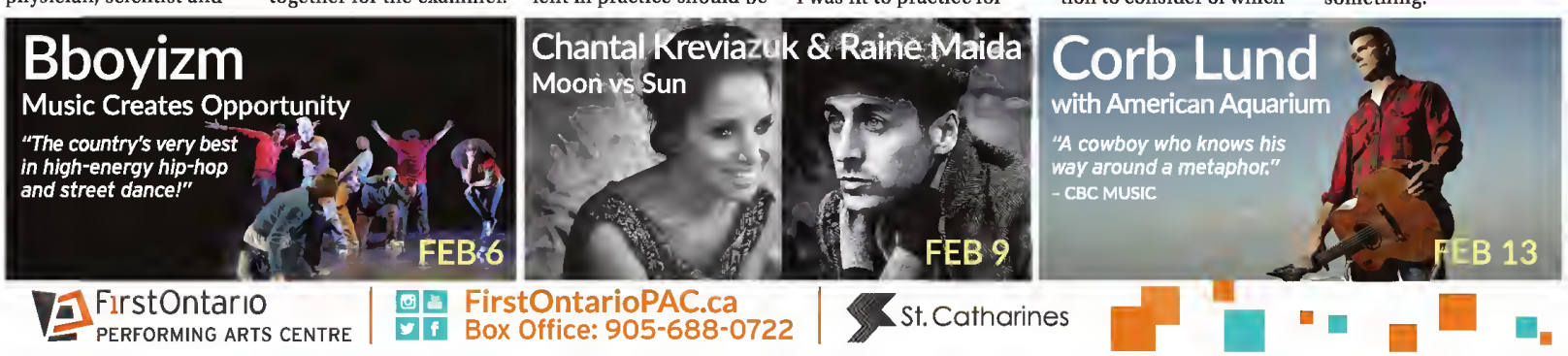
There are lessons to be learned from both the medical and flying check rides.

First every physician should be checked at regular intervals when the object is maintenance of skills and hopefully learning new skills to stay current. Certainly flying has changed, what with 'glass cockpits' and a plethora of monitoring instruments which while welcome most of the time, can soon overwhelm pilots in emergencies, especially when that glass cockpit suddenly goes blank at the most inconvenient time.

And in my medical career a lot has changed. Most of the medications, all the imaging techniques, save the lowly X-ray, many of the tests I employ these days, electronic records and computers were simply not around when I went through medical school, residency and postgraduate training. I was very well trained in among other things, the physical examination – a skill largely lost now – but assuming that I was fit to practice for a lifetime after qualifying in my 20s was and is nonsense. Staying up to date in medicine involves a lot of things, including going to annual or biannual update meetings – in recent years I've used Harvard for mine – going to rounds where I have an opportunity to listen to and talk to colleagues in different specialties and subspecialties, reading high class journals such as Nature and Science, the Lancet and New England Journal of Medicine and specialty journals and frankly running the INFOHEALTH program and writing these columns, all help to keep me up to date. The public plays a big part too because many of the ideas for writing come from people I bump into in this town.

There's a lot more to quality care than vetting physicians and surgeons on a regular basis. There's the whole matter of how well professionals work with one another, regular assessment of group practices such as family health care teams, urgent care clinics, walk-in clinics, nurses, other health team members and administration to consider of which we frankly haven't had enough assessment on all accounts. And the results should be available to the public. With health care soaking up close to 60 percent of the provincial budget, reviewing quality care and financial accountability should be the order of the day for any responsible government and every bit and piece of the health care system and citizen. As I've mentioned to several readers of this column, its time that we borrowed something from public education, namely create a third leg to the health care system by creating elected boards of health akin to boards of education, not when convenient arbitrary appointments, of members of the public who lack the credibility and accountability of the ballot box. It's an idea, which is overdue and one I'll return to in a later column.

For a wider ranging approach to quality in care in the health system, plan to attend the next InfoHealth session on Feb. 10 at 1 p.m. at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library. They and you might just learn something.



NOTL needs more Uber drivers, says fan of ride service

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

Lesley Duthie is an ultra-Uber fan.

She loves to dive into the controversy of the traditional taxi model versus the business model for taxis of the future, which to her is Uber - it's convenient, efficient, safe, and easier on the pocketbook than calling a cab, she says.

Duthie is now a part-time Virgil resident, having recently purchased a house here, and comes to town for weekends and holidays, working in Toronto Monday to Friday. But she's been visiting friends in Niagara-on-the-Lake for years, and recalls the many times she wanted to call a taxi to go out for the evening rather than driving and was told repeatedly, "you can't get a taxi in Niagara-on-the-Lake."

That should change with the availability of Uber rides, but not as quickly as she would like.

Duthie relies exclusively on Uber in Toronto and has had positive experiences - more so than with traditional taxis, she says.

She's never felt uncomfortable with an Uber driver, and in Toronto, the fare about 50 per cent cheaper, she said.

She has a taxi stand outside her Toronto condominium, but says she would rather rely on Uber, where a driver is usually available within three minutes. She can arrange for the ride through an app on her phone and wait inside, tracking its arrival.

The one time she was able to use the service in Niagara was for a ride home from the casino in Niagara Falls - instead of a $40 cab ride, it cost her $29. She also likes that no money changes hands - her credit card is billed - and the driver, who gets 75 per cent of the fare, doesn't expect a tip.

Niagara-on-the-Lake, with its shortage of alternatives, is the perfect place for Uber to catch on, but what it needs is more drivers, she says.

And as more people become comfortable with the concept, she hopes to see more drivers coming online.

At the moment, if you're in Niagara Falls or St. Catharines, it's easy to find an Uber driver close by to drive you home to NOTL, but not so easy to find a driver in NOTL waiting to take you out, she says.

There is one who lives in St. Davids - he pointed out his home when he drove her back from the casino - but he isn't always available.

Uber spokesperson Susie Heath says drivers are currently able to pick up and drop off in Niagara-on-the-Lake, so you could, for example, take a ride from St Catharines to NOTL and vice versa - but over the coming weeks, she said, "we expect reliability to increase."

Duthie believes once people realize how easy it is to supplement their income as an Uber driver, rides will be easier to find.

Drivers choose when they want to be available, and don't have to accept a request for a ride if they choose not to.

"I work in IT," she said, "and if I was laid off for any reason, I'd drive for Uber while I looked for another job."

After a ride, passengers are asked to rate their drivers, and drivers are asked to rate their passengers - the safety issue works both ways. She always rates her driver, and she always checks ratings when she's looking for a ride, she said.

"I've never had a bad Uber experience," she said.

The controversy that has arisen over Uber is largely because it's misunderstood, she believes - at least in Niagara, where it's new. And because it's unregulated in the manner of traditional taxis, there is a fear that it isn't as safe.

Although it's new to Niagara, it's been around for a few years - it was founded in San Francisco in 2009 - and is very popular in major cities in Europe and the U.S. It now offers its services in more than 40 communities in Ontario.

The service works through an app on a cell phone, which allows a potential passenger to enter credit card information, look on a map for a driver near by and make a ride request.

The app estimates the time to pick-up and the fare, and when the ride is accepted, sends the customer a picture of the driver, his licence plate, and the vehicle he's driving.

One of the issues often mentioned is insurance, but Heath says every Uber ride is covered.

"Ridesharing partners are covered by commercial auto insurance in addition to any insurance coverage maintained by the driver-partner. We also have a well-established claims process. Upon being notified (of an accident), we work with our riders or partners on properly resolving any accident claim."

Uber also conducts and pays for police and drivers' records background checks, Heath says.

To compare fares, Heath says, there is a fare estimator available online that shows how much trips would cost between different locations in the region at https://www.uber.com/cities/niagara-region.

Continued Page 9

Niagara-on-the-Lake EST 1781

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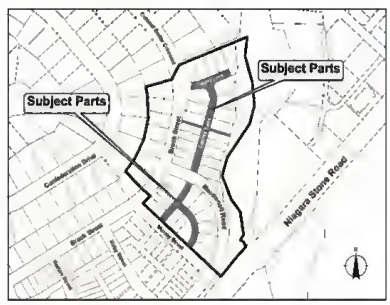
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Village Subdivision - Common Elements Condominium Application

PROPOSED CHANGE

Draft plan approval for a common elements condominium for the private laneways servicing the dwelling units on Brock, Macdonell, Murray Streets & Cooley Lane, within Block 8 & 9 on Plan 30M-427 to allow a number of land owners to share ownership, maintenance and administration of the laneways. The draft plan of condominium refers only to the laneways and does not propose any changes to the previously granted approvals for the subdivision.



HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on any proposed matter is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town.

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: February 22, 2016
Time: 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter
Place: Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Administration Offices, Council Chambers 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil, Ontario

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request personal notice if the proposed change is adopted, please send a letter c/o Town Clerk Holly Dowd, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario, L0S 1T0.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information please contact Brynne O'Neill at 905-468-3266, extension 254 or boneill@notl.org. A copy of this notice can be found on the Town's website at www.notl.org.

LEGAL NOTICE
Section 51 of the Planning Act

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Council to the Ontario Municipal Board

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submission to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there is reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town Council in respect to this matter, you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 28th day of January 2016.

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Region asking province to update legislation

Continued From Page 8

A quick look online shows that a trip from Virgil to the St. Catharines General Hospital would cost between $32 an $42, or from Virgil to the Pen Centre $25 to $32.

Central Taxi, which sends cabs to NOTL, says the average wait for a cab pick-up in Virgil is 20 minutes. Rides from NOTL to St. Catharines are charged at a fixed rate of $35, the dispatcher said, although the meter runs and the amount can vary.

Another issue with Uber rides has been fare surges - the cost of a ride can rise if cars are in high demand, but the app will show that as well, giving the passenger a chance to accept the ride or not.

The other part of the controversy is the legality of using a private ride service - in Ontario, municipalities or regional governments licence and regulate taxis.

Several municipalities are looking a new bylaws that allow ride-sharing, including Ottawa, Windsor and Waterloo, trying to find compromises that allow for a more level playing field with taxi drivers who pay high licensing costs.

Hanif Patni lists a host of concerns in arguments against Uber. Patni is president and CEO of Coventry Connections, which has about 200 cab drivers working for it in Niagara under banners such as Central and NCT Elite.

Patni said the Municipal Act makes it clear regulation is required for consumer protection. Every taxi has a meter in it, to be sure everyone is charged the same amount, with the responsible municipality setting the rates.

"It means everyone is treated the same way," he said. That regulatory framework includes "a balance of supply and demand so that people who are supplying the business are making a decent livelihood, while still providing the supply," he said.

His other concern is "more commercial."

"We have close to 200 families who have invested in this business and are full-time workers," Patni said. Coventry has also plowed in more than $11 million in Niagara in investments that include acquiring taxi plates, he said.

Other add-ons include new taxi cabs, cab cameras, point of sale devices, and a new booking system, including through text messaging and a phone app, added in December.

While the Niagara Regional Police have been asked to find a local solution that works for traditional taxis as well as ride-sharers, regional council and St. Catharines city council are also calling on the province to develop legislation that would regulate ride-sharing companies and level the playing field for all drivers.

With files from Don Fraser, Postmedia Network

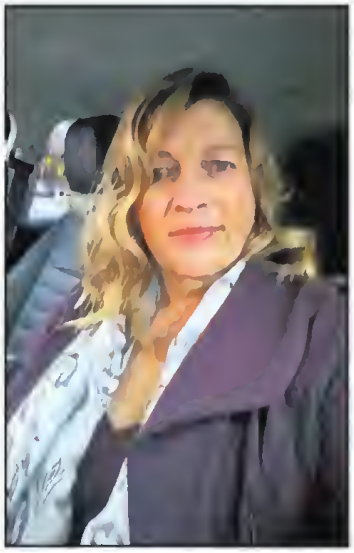

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Lesley Duthie is a fan of Uber rides - she just wishes there were more drivers in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

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ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, February 5, 2016 at 2:30 pm
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Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

The Annual Meeting of Members, Annual Contributors, and Life Members of the Shaw Festival Theatre, Canada has been called to present reports from the Chair, Treasurer, Executive Director and Artistic Director for the fiscal year 2015.

NIAGARAADVANCE.CA

Local teacher taking kids to help kids in Guatemala

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

Sharon Heidebrecht isn't kidding when she says the youth at Orchard Park Bible Church wanted to be involved in an outreach project - they are reaching out to some of the neediest people in the world, living in Guatemala's rural mountain area.

Heidebrecht, a Niagara-on-the-Lake native teaching at St. Davids Public School, which she attended as a youngster, and now a youth leader at the church, is taking a group of 10 high school kids to Guatemala for March break, accompanied by one other teacher.

The kids, students of A.N. Meyer in Niagara Falls and Eden High School in St. Catharines, will be billeted in the homes of the Guatemalans, where they will spend 10 days helping in the community.

Their goals include building a playground at what Heidebrecht calls a feeding centre - a building in the community that promises a "safe place," and where kids go for a free hot meal.

They also plan to install enclosed ovens, with smoke vented to the outside, for families where meals are still cooked over open fires in their homes.

The students are organizing a fundraiser for Saturday, Feb. 6, to be held at Orchard Park Church from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It's a bake sale with a silent auction of goods and services, including four hours of sailing, a flight over Niagara Falls and the Niagara River, and winery tours.

"There is a huge variety of items, including people giving their time," said Heidebrecht.

For more information call Heidebrecht at 289-213-0056.

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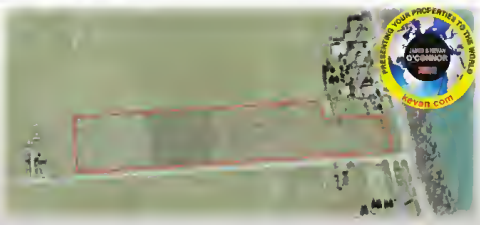

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Lions encourage Leos to work for good of community

Penny Coles
NIAGARA ADVANCE

Leadership, experience, opportunity: those are the values of Leo Clubs, the Lions Clubs International program for young people.

Students at St. Davids Public School are learning those values, with help from the St. Davids Lions Club, which got a Leo Club going at the school last March.

Ben Janzen, in Grade 7 at St. Davids, is one of about 25 Leos at the school, and really enjoys the activities.

"I really like helping out - it feels good, and it's fun. We do a lot of fun things, and there are lots of opportunities for getting involved in the community," he said.

Continued Page 13

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Leo Club turns great kids into better adults

Continued From Page 12

As a Leo member he's helped out at the St. Davids Lions fish fries, and really enjoyed working at the Lions Carnival last summer. Leos looked after the dunk tank at the event, and jumped in wherever else help was needed, including the hamburger stand, the grocery wheel and the games.

Janzen says he will continue with the Leo Club as long as he can, and looks forward to becoming a Lion when he's old enough.

Lou-Anne Rochat, a member of the Lions club and the Leo leader at the school, says she believes it's a great experience for kids.

"All of our members are active, and they get credit in high school for their volunteer work. I think the club is a really positive influence - it encourages kids to help out in their community. Leos tend to become leaders and do well in the future. This gives them a really good foundation, a chance to see that there is need out there, and that they can do something to help others. I believe these kids will be better adults because of this."

The school and the club, which are neighbours on York Road, already had a good relationship, and a Leo Club was seen as an opportunity to develop this partnership and give the kids a way to give back to their community, which help from the Lions, says Lion Al Snider.

In total, more than 160,000 young people in almost 6,000 clubs in 140 countries around the world. Leos can be from age 12 to 30, but in St. Davids, the Lions are focusing on Grade 8 students, and have some members who joined the club last spring and are now in high school.

The motto of Lions is to serve their community, and Leos are encouraged to do the same in any way they're able - it could be activities they already take part in, helping their sponsoring club, such as local kids helping at the St. Davids Lions Carnival, but they are also able to choose their own activities, depending on their interests and abilities, with the help of a Lion advisor.

They can take on their own projects, they can fundraise, and Lions members will help out and make their hall just down the road available to them if needed, said Snider.

One of the goals is to give kids a nudge toward joining Lions when they're older - their sponsoring club, or any club, said Snider.

But if that doesn't work out for them, he adds, they've been given a good background in getting involved in their community, and hopefully that will continue.

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357 JOHNSON STREET $1,395,000

The perfect blend of Old Town traditional architecture with open, contemporary living spaces. Newly renovated from top to bottom with high end finishes throughout that are sure to impress. Nestled in a most sought after quiet neighbourhood, just a short stroll from the waterfront, theatre & fine dining. MLS# N30055156. Marilyn Francis and Thomas Elltoft.

9 THE PROMENADE $529,000

This pristine, carefully maintained and updated Bungalow is located on The Promenade; a very desirable address in a quiet neighbourhood and a comfortable walk to The Commons and into town. Situated on a coveted lot with no rear neighbours and backing onto a conservation nature trail. Open concept living/ dining room, eat in kitchen, 2 beds, 2 baths, main floor laundry provide comfortable easy living. The lower level is finished with a 3rd bed, bath and family room. MLS New. Audrey Wright and Chris Bowron.

60 ½ SHAKESPEARE AVE $469,000

Recently updated and well maintained raised bungalow located in popular Chatauqua neighbourhood close to lake and backing on to woodland. Convenient basement walk out to landscaped back gardens, heated studio/workshop and gazebo. Walking distance to parks, trails, Main Street shops, restaurants and theatres. MLS# N30055006. Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft.

1096 LINE 9 ROAD $574,900

21.9 acres of land. Approx. 7 acres is woodland with the remaining as grassland, it has not been farmed in recent years. Drainage ditch along the east boundary is on the property and maintained by the Town. Bungalow of approximately 1400 square feet is well maintained. Buy and hold, rent out and build your dream home later! MLS# N30026740. Kevin Stokes.

3 TULIP TREE ROAD $549,900

Outstanding stone and brick bungalow built by the award winning Rinaldi Homes. This open concept home has loads of extra's including hardwood and ceramic floors, granite counter tops, glass shower etc. Finished basement has a large recreation room, bedroom and bathroom. A must see home. MLS# N30047964. Randy Armstrong.

242 SIMCOE STREET $1,895,000

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32 FIRELANE 11A $519,000

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7 LAURA SECORD PLACE $699,000

Gorgeous park like setting! This very rare almost 3/4 acre private ravine lot is located on a quiet cul-de-sac. This four bedroom home with many updates has been very well maintained. The rear yard is a paradise with a 20 x 40 "wave pool", large deck, flagstone walkways and beautiful gardens. MLS# N30049620. Victoria Bolduc and Sarah Gleddie.

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Elder financial abuse on the rise

DON FRASER
STANDARD STAFF

It can start with a pilfered credit card, or a dipped-into bank account.

Money gets stolen in a scam and a senior's assets get stripped.

Too often, the perpetrators are family members or close "friends."

Paul Spiridi first handled these cases for Niagara Regional Police about 10 years ago.

"They might have one elder financial abuse on the go, he said. "Now almost everyone on the unit has one on the go,"

"One thing for sure it is on the rise in Niagara," said Spiridi, a detective constable with the force who heads up its fraud unit. "It's on the rise in Canada, but we have a high proportion of seniors as Niagara becomes a retirement destination.

"So it's a huge topic."

And it's not just police who are taking notice — other stakeholders who are witness to this surge in abuse are taking action.

In 2014, a BeFAIR project sponsored by Niagara North Community Legal Assistance was launched to get a clearer picture of the problem.

It was funded by Justice Canada Victims Fund to research senior financial abuse in Niagara.

Now the next step has begun with a service about to be launched called Community Response Network, funded by the same federal source. It will bring together various agencies, including banks and police, to help seniors fight financial abuse.

It seeks a number of outcomes including a response team to respond to abuse claims, another team to review and resolve complex financial abuse cases and education to empower seniors.

Rick Rochon, a consultant involved in the initiative, said research — using various sources including legal long-term care home reports, the NRP's fraud unit and public trustees — documented about 1,100 cases of abuse between 2012 and 2013.

Only some of those were also criminal investigations undertaken by the NRP.

JULIE JOCSAK/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Consultant Rick Rochon says studies show up to 10 per cent of seniors suffer some form of financial abuse.

"If you look at the stats, they show up to 10 per cent of seniors suffer some form of financial abuse," Rochon said. "With 75,000 seniors in Niagara, that means 7,500 are likely being abused in some way financially."

Rochon said statistics show about 35 per cent of the situations involve family members or caregivers.

Another 50 per cent are scams and frauds that could originate from the Internet or door-to-door — a salesperson perhaps insisting a senior homeowner needs a new water heater.

Spiridi said the whole issue of elder abuse can be nebulous. There are situations in which a family member may be just generally nasty to an old person.

Continued Page 20

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These volunteers' continued support and assistance during Parade Day makes it all happen! ***An especially grateful thank-you to the Committee themselves who consist of: Bob Cheriton, John Fryer, Darka Jensen, Christine & Corey Klassen, Pat Tebbutt, Kevin Turcotte and Jessica Williams.***

Sincerely -- Bruce Pospiech, Chairman

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More seniors getting ripped off

Continued From Page 14

It's not against the law to be a mean person; alleged crimes have to be committed.

"When you're dealing with senior elder abuse, the vast majority of criminal offenses are financial in nature," Spiridi said.

Everyone can be hit by a scam, like credit card or online fraud, but certain scams target seniors in particular, he said.

Among them are one for which a fake relative calls for money in an emergency. For others, scammers contact seniors and get into their bank accounts while fraudulently posing as bank examiners.

"But the biggest problem we're seeing are powers of attorney," Spiridi said.

The problem is "sometimes people will jump the gun and dip into that money when they're not supposed to."

Here, victims can be 85 years old and the child suspects 60. These are tough cases to dig into, as are situations with joint accounts and seniors who are still competent.

"We'll lay criminal charges, for sure, if they're warranted," Spiridi said. "Each case has to be looked at on their own."

He said when abuse is clearly criminal, there are things that can be done to "assist in dealing with the causes of the abuse."

"In those case we try to connect the senior with an appropriate agency," Spiridi said. "In many of those cases we work with community groups to assist the senior while dealing with the criminal elements of the investigation."

When the situations involve family members, they can be understandably extremely sensitive.

The Standard spoke to two Niagara residents subjected to financial elder abuse — one was a power of attorney. Neither wanted any names or details released in an article.

"There is no question this is our biggest hurdle," said Ted Kingdon, lead consultant in the BeFAIR/ Community Response Network project. "And it is a touchy subject."

Kingdon said most people dislike talking about their finances, and even more so seniors.

And when it involves family members "it gets worse, because ... it may be their son or daughter. And here the problem is often a sense of entitlement.

The attitude: "This is going to be my inheritance anyway so why don't I just get the money now," he said.

Oftentimes it starts off innocently, whereby a family member is actually helping the senior.

If that child caregiver isn't financially sound, grafting money from the parent starts to look appealing.

The problem is studies showing a lack of reporting on the part of seniors, he said. And a lot of that is reporting from "health and social services."

"But (even that) only works if the organization has a policy," he said. "Not every organization has a policy for reporting."

"We can set up a system with a hotline and people ready to respond," he said, "but the only way it's ever really going to work is if we educate the Niagara public."

don.fraser@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @don_standard

SENIOR ABUSE MEETING

A senior financial abuse community forum will take place Thursday, Jan. 28, when the new Community Response Network will be discussed.

It takes place at Welland Civic Square, 60 East Main St., from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Doors open at 9 a.m. for a meet-and-greet and refreshments. Seating is limited. Visit www.befairservice.ca.

Senior financial abuse numbers

- Seniors Safety Line (24/7, 150 languages) 1-866-299-1011
- Niagara Regional Police 905-688-4111
- Crimestoppers 1-800-222-8477
- Niagara Gatekeeper Program 905-684-0968

Some examples of financial abuse

- theft of cash, credit cards bank cards, mail
- cashing in RRSPs without permission
- using the older adult's bank card to withdraw cash from an ATM without permission
- repeated borrowing
- withholding an older adult's pension
- forcing the older adult to change his/her will or to give a power of attorney
- misuse of power of attorney
- forging an older adult's name or altering documents
- establishing a "joint account" and using the senior's money without his/her knowledge or permission

Source: various, compiled by Rick Rochon

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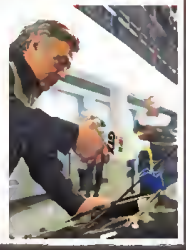

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Safety committee still active after 25 years in community

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

It's been 25 years since Niagara-on-the-Lake formed a committee to look after the safety of the community and its residents, and although the town has changed, the work of the committee remains constant.

The biggest change came two years ago, when the Niagara Regional Police discontinued its community policing program across the Niagara Region, says Bill Dickson, who joined the committee almost two decades ago.

Many municipalities across the province still have community policing, says Dickson - he believes the Niagara police force is the only one that withdrew from that initiative. But the town decided to continue with a safety committee, and the NRP still sends representatives to the monthly Monday meetings, he says.

One constant from 1991, the year the committee was formed, has been the bike rodeo for migrant workers - teaching farm workers, who use bicycles as their main mode of transportation, how to be safe on local roads was identified by the original members of the committee as a priority.

Over the years, the NOTL Rotary Club has come on board to help out, said Dickson, and the rodeo has changed to include entertainment as well as some health presentations for the workers, but still focuses on ensuring bikes have reflectors and the workers understand the local rules of the road for cyclists.

This year, the committee will also offer its third annual bike rodeo for children, which is held in conjunction with the Virgil Stampede in May.

Other programs such as Neighbourhood Watch and Block Parents have come and gone, and committee members would like to see them activated.

"The officers who attend our meetings still help out by presenting crime reports, not at every meeting, but if there has been a surge in activity, such as break and enters," Dickson said.

New initiatives have also been introduced, such as Lock it or Lose it, designed to remind motorists to lock their cars, and put any valuables away in their trunks, before they walk away from their parked vehicles - members were out before Christmas putting flyers on cars in NOTL parking areas, after checking to see if they were locked.

Child car seat safety is another issue the safety committee tackles through clinics supported by trained St. John Ambulance volunteers. One was held recently and at least two more will be offered this year.

And coming up in 2016, says safety committee president Cathy Wickabrod, is a drug awareness program for kids in elementary schools in NOTL.

The committee was approached by the NOTL Family Health Team with concerns about the increasing problem of kids using oxycontin, mostly by finding the prescription drug in the family medicine cabinet, she said.

"They felt like it was too late to be reaching out to high school students, that the problem begins with kids in Grade 6, 7 and 8," said Wickabrod.

The safety committee is working with retired Niagara Regional Police officer Terry Thomson, known for his efforts at getting prescription drugs off the street. He promotes a drug awareness program called Say No to Drugs, and is helping the committee to take that message to the three elementary schools in NOTL.

Wickabrod says parents and teachers are supporting the committee's efforts, but so far, the stumbling block has been scheduling some time at Crossroads Public School, where they hope to start.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Members of St. John Ambulance offer instruction on safely installing child car seats at an event hosted by the NOTL safety committee at the Virgil Fire Station.

"We're ready and willing to get this going," she says.

In addition to trying to bring back Neighbourhood Watch and Block Parents, the committee also plans to offer the Child Find program locally.

"Our schools are jampacked, and we know a number of kids walk home through areas without sidewalks. Child Find and Block Parents are important programs in our community. We have a lot of things in the works."

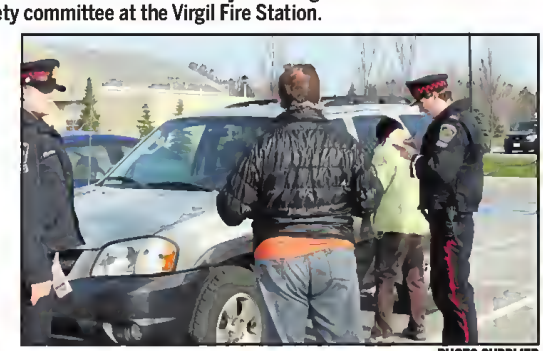
But it's a small group of volunteers, and help would be appreciated, she added.

"We have a committee of 14 to 16 people, but we get the same group of five members coming to our meetings. This committee exists for the benefit of the town, and if we're going to accomplish all we hope to, we need help. Anyone interested can come to our meetings. The more people we have with us, the more doors we can open, and the more we can accomplish."

The meetings are open, and are held the third Monday of the month in the Mary Snider Room at the Virgil Centennial arena at 4:30 p.m.

Anyone with safety issues to take to the committee is also welcome, said Wickabrod.

For more information Wickabrod can be reached at 905-646-1711 ext.3078.



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NRP auxiliary officers and NOTL safety committee members check cars in the community centre parking lot with the Lock it or Lose it program.

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History tours a 'calling from God'

RAY SPITERI
Postmedia Network

Lezlie Harper Wells will spread her wealth of knowledge about Canadian black history to a high school in New Jersey next month.

The Fort Erie native, who for more than a decade has offered customized tours of Niagara's Freedom Trail, relating the stories of black freedom seekers, was invited to speak to students in Newark in February.

"This is what I've been working towards," she said. "These kids need to hear this message. I am so happy to have this opportunity. I'm over the moon."

Harper Wells is a direct descendant of a freedom seeker who arrived in Niagara in 1850. Her great, great-grandfather fled slavery in Kentucky with his brother and nine-year-old sister. They hiked thousands of kilometres alone by night, slogged through swamps and swam across rivers. They eventually crossed the Niagara River near Buffalo and settled along the northern shore at Fort Erie.

Harper Wells said her great-grandfather, who was born in Canada, left the country to fight in the Civil War.

"Born free in Canada, yet felt compelled to fight in the Civil War in the United States," she said.

Harper Wells started her Niagara Bound Tours nearly 12 years ago.

It's a one-person company and her office, she said, is in her one-bedroom apartment in St. Catharines.

"This is my calling from God," she said.

Niagara Bound Tours takes in several historical spots around St. Catharines, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Fort Erie, intended to provide people with a unique insight into the migration of African Americans as they escaped slavery in the mid-19th century and settled in southern Ontario.

BOB TYMCZYSZYN/THE STANDARD

Lezlie Harper Wells, founder of Niagara Bound Tours, which organizes customized, family-friendly tours of Niagara's Freedom Trail, relating to black history. Harper Wells stands at a plaque recognizing Richard Pierpoint, a leader of the black community in the time of the War of 1812.

Tours include points where freedom seekers crossed the Niagara River, a church that Harriet Tubman, a freedom seeker who settled in Niagara, helped build and worshipped in, and the landing point of Josiah Henson, believed to be the inspiration for a character in Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Along the tour, Harper Wells tells stories, explaining challenges those forced to flee the slave states overcame. Her tours also shed light on the Underground Railroad, a network of people who hid and guided slaves north to freedom.

Harper Wells said she does the tours for groups of two or more people. It was during a recent tour that she got the invitation to speak at a high school in New Jersey from a man who works in the Newark school system.

"It's about telling the stories accurately and authentically. (In 2015) we saw more return business than ever before," she said, noting in March it will be 12 years since she started doing the tours.

"I keep it fresh. I am constantly reading and learning about history."

She said during her February address, she wants the students to learn "why this history is important."

Others, such as Italians, Germans, Jews, or currently, Syrian refugees, have gone through their own struggles, which is also important to recognize, said Harper Wells.

"It's something we can all learn from. Hopefully (her address) can help with their self esteem, to instill that self pride, to encourage people to keep moving and be the best that they can be."

Harper Wells said she has also gone into jails and spoken to inmates about "making better decisions going forward."

For more information, visit niagaraboundtours.com.

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– with files from Postmedia Network

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IAN GORING/SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

The Wine Guys' Dave Shepherd and CHCH Sportsliners reporter Lisa Hepfner face off at the 2015 charity hockey game at the Meridian Credit Union Arena in Virgil. Despite massive layoffs at CHCH the Sportsliners are still playing, and this year's match is Saturday, Jan. 30 at 1:30 p.m., with Joe Pillitteri as MC for the event, which is a fundraiser for NOTL Kinsmen.

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Sports

Wallbangers get to gold medal game in oldtimers' tournament

ROSS ROBINSON
Special to the Advance

The mantra was "fight fatigue" as the Niagara-on-the-Lake Wallbangers laced up their skates for the gold medal game on Sunday afternoon at the Gale Centre in Niagara Falls.

This year's Al Reid Memorial Tournament brought together some 76 teams of fun-loving hockey players from Ontario, Quebec and Michigan.

It was the Wallbangers' fourth game within 23 hours in the 65B division team, which provided a handy excuse for the eventual 2 – 0 loss. No matter the winning St. Thomas First Choice team had also played four games. They were, upon objective and sober reflection, the better team on the day.

Wallbangers Captain Terry Nord had assembled a team using the philosophy that often times the dressing room camaraderie is more important than on-ice skill sets. The totally positive mood before each game reinforced what legendary hockey coach Badger Bob Johnson always said, "Don't try to teach a pig to sing. You can't, and it annoys the pig." Only positive people need apply.

After winning two and losing one in the round robin, a very convoluted and mathematically complex formula put the Wallbangers in Sunday's final. Well-run Oldtimers tournaments feature a lot of good faith, with some leeway given on age requirements. For example, this tournament's 65B division convenor allowed 59-year-old Fred Andres and 58-year-old Ron Critchley to play, although they were in theory too young. "As long as they fit in and aren't too good " said the convenor.

Well, Andres absolutely stood on his head in each on the four games. Flashing the leather, dipping into his modified butterfly position, and cutting angles, he allowed only six goals during the four games.

And, to think that the Sunday final game was his fourth game of the day, at three different arenas. During the second period of the final game, a hard shot hit him right in the face mask. Unfazed, he somehow managed to stop the shot from the rebound. Definitely the player of the weekend.

On paper, the Wallbangers looked pretty strong offensively. Former Merritton and St. Catharines Chiefs stars Red Henderson, Phil Pirie, Gary Young, Rob Shepherd, Ed McGurk and Jean "Hollywood" Marchand added quickness (yes, yes, it's a relative term) and scoring talent, but only Marchand was able to score during the tournament. And score he did, with two goals and an assist. Whaddaguy! And such nice hair.

Try to imagine the atmosphere at a big old-timers hockey tournament. Adults playing their best in front of virtually empty stands, dressed in sharp looking sweaters and socks, with a variety of hockey pant colours. Creative team names are the norm, such as the Hamilton Gaspers, the Paris Sites, the Hogtown Hogs, and the Aurora Touch of Grey.

Our Wallbangers team was started 27 years ago by Virgill hockey legend Dave Wall. Huffing and puffing up and down the ice, trying to avoid avoid contact, and remembering the key thought when the puck finds its way to one's stick, "What can I do now that I won't embarrass myself?"

A good time was had by all, nobody got injured, and the post-game refreshments were icy cold.

Nord summarized the weekend with the simple query, "Would it be possible to have had more fun?"

PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Wallbangers came up short in the gold medal game of the 39th Al Reid Memorial Oldtimers tournament, but said they couldn't have had more fun getting there.

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Bantam Wolves come home with gold

The bantam All-Green Irrigation AE team of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Hockey Association captured gold at a tournament across the river.

Playing Ontario and New York teams at the at the Empire Cup tournament in Rochester, the Wolves won three games and lost one, outshooting their opponents 29 to 6 to make it to the championship game.

Up against the Webster Cyclones, who earlier beat the Wolves, the players turned in their best performance of the tournament and won 5 – 0 to capture gold. The entire team played well and showed great sportsmanship by playing a penalty-free game.

Leading the way was the stellar performance of 6'4" goalie, Kyle Irving, with two shutouts and six goals-against in the tournament.

The defence team of Bosten Parliament, Colby Ostromecki, Ethan Carmichael, Kai Bartel and Sean Vanderzalm played solid throughout, making many clever plays to stop the other teams' offense. They were also key in scoring, blasting shots from the point and making end-to-end rushes.

The line of Taylor Glauser, Nick DiFruscio and Justice Ball read well off each other making good passes, exciting moves and contributing nice goals and assists. Nick Simmonds's speedy play and hustle earned him many awesome scoring opportunities. Brett Wilson was flying on the ice and scored some terrific goals. Griffin DenBesten showed great checking skills. Alexandre Brillion was excellent as centre and on the power play. Tyler Cullen was solid on forward-making great passes to Josh Frena, who showed his good offensive skills by putting the puck in the net.

The Wolves now head into the OMHA playoffs and face Pelham.

PHOTO SUPPLIED

The NOTL bantam All-Greens won gold at the Empire Cup tournament in Rochester, NY this weekend.

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Early Attending and Academic Skills
- Working with families to improve children's language and literacy
- Using ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) to assess skills, set goals, and design treatment

Hedy Braun M.A., BCBA
905-468-7212
braun_hedy@hotmail.com

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AUTO PARTS & REPAIR
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CAUGHILL AUTO
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905-934-1941

Classifieds

niagaraadvance.ca/classifieds

Phone: 1-866-541-6757 • Fax: 1-866-485-8461 • Email: niagaraadvance.classifieds@sunmedia.ca

General Help Wanted

PAPER CARRIERS WANTED

to deliver the **NIAGARA ADVANCE**
Thursdays to residents in

Niagara on the Green
(Keith Cres., Durham Way)
(Wright Cres., Haynes Crt.

Haven't Seen A Route Advertised For Your Area? Call & leave your name, address & telephone number & we will call you if one becomes available. If interested contact Petrina at
petrina.istok@sunmedia.ca or 905-871-3100 ext. 1

General Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE Need!

HOUSEKEEPER

Historic Davy House in Heart of Old Town requires House Keeping assistance year round.
Please Call 905-468-5307

Furnished

Furnished, 1 Bedroom basement apartment. Private entrance. Six appliances. Utilities included, $900/month. Call: 905-371-3579

Houses for Rent

3 Bedroom Country Home with 2 bath in virgil on a 1 acre country lot Nestled amongst vineyards. Spacious and recently renovated $1500 + utilities. No pets, no smoking. Call 905-651-9372

Rooms for Rent

Rural **NOTL** $500/mo. all incl. 905-262-0000 email: collinrayment@xplornet.com

Storage Space for Rent

BARN STORAGE
NOTL area, $550/mo. 2,600sqft. (leave message) 905-687-3966

Seasonal/Temporary

SEASONAL F/T Farm Labourers needed: May - Sept. 2016, available 7 days/week in all weather conditions. Experience preferred for planting, pruning, thinning & harvesting peaches. Heavy lifting and ladder work is involved. Must have own transportation to rural NOTL. Hourly min. wage. Please mail resume to P.O. Box 1292 Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0. *Only candidates to be interviewed will be contacted.*

Seasonal F/T Farm Worker needed May-Sept. in NOTL. Long hrs in all weather. Previous experience in pruning, thinning, harvesting. Own trans., min. wage. sirlukes@hotmail.com

Seasonal Full Time Farm workers required for fruit farm April to Oct. Must be available 7 days/week in all weather conditions. Job entails pruning, thinning, harvesting fruit plus heavy lifting and considerable ladder work. Must have own transportation, minimum wage $11.25/hr. Please mail resume with references to: K.L. Farms, 100 Wall Rd., R.R. # 3 Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0. Only qualified persons will be contacted. (no walk ins)

Seasonal F/T Farm Worker needed May-Sept. in NOTL. Long hrs in all weather. Previous experience in pruning, thinning, harvesting, Own trans., min. wage. Box 321, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

businessdirectory

Painters & Decorators

NEED A PAINT JOB DONE?
Interior for now!
Reasonable Rates! Quality Work!
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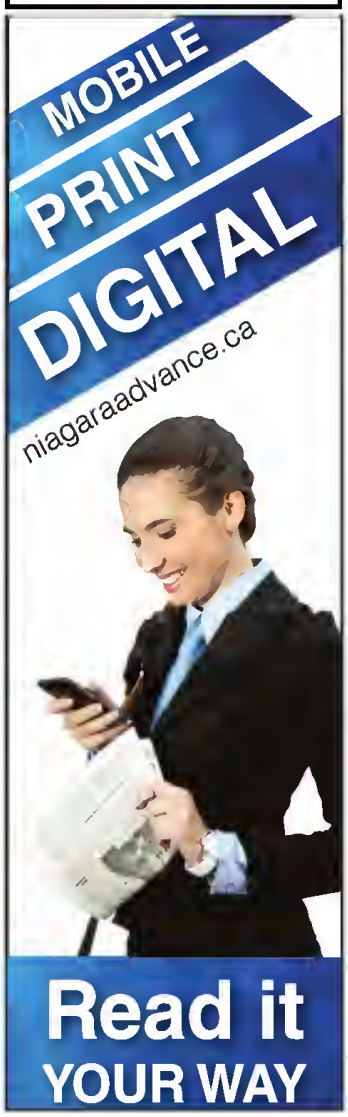
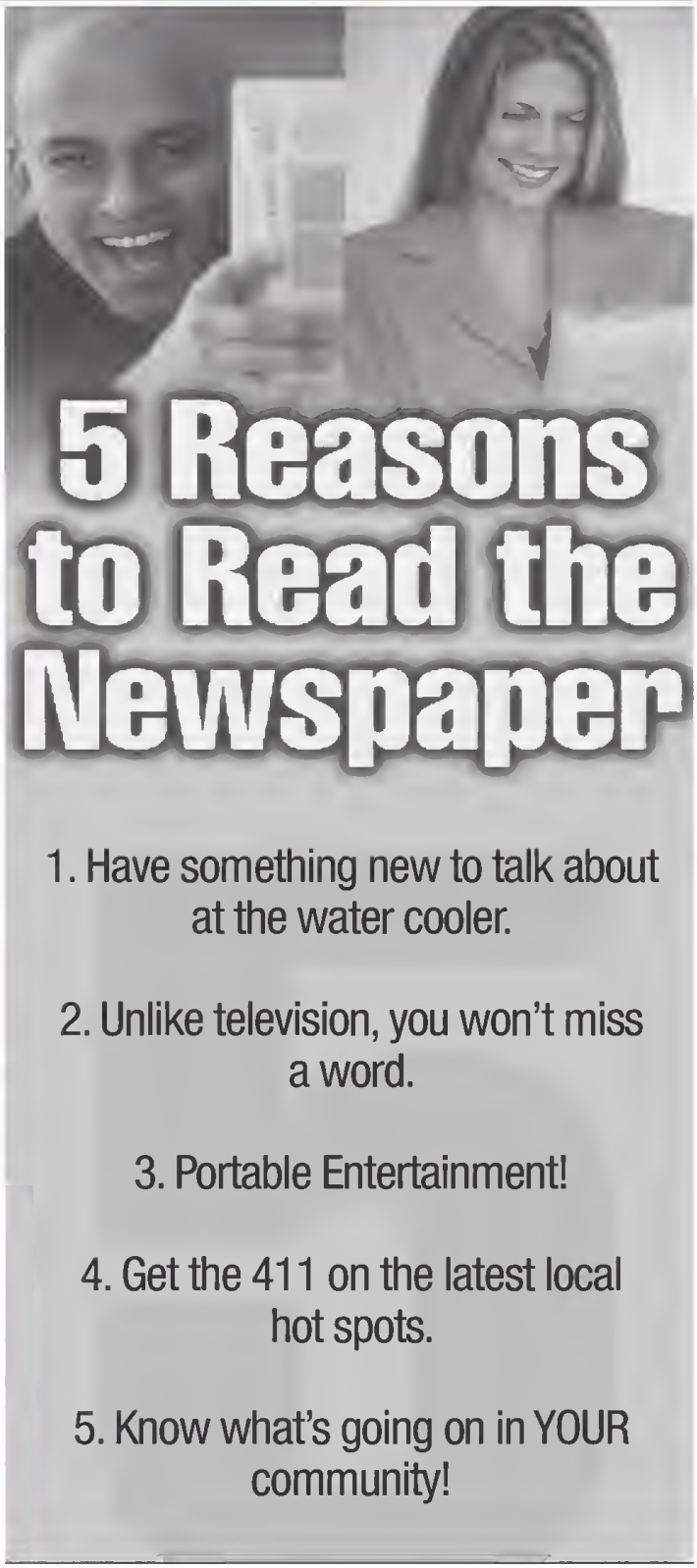
PLUMBING SERVICES
Specializing in Water / Sewer Upgrades,
Sump Pumps, Basement Rough-Ins,
Sewer Pump Up Discharge,
Drainage / Catch Basin, Weepers.
Call 905-384-1972





yourlifemoments.ca

For Obituaries call:
1-877-750-5054
Fax: 1-866-485-8461
e-mail: obituaries@yourlifemoments.ca

All other moments call:
1-888-786-7821
Fax: 1-866-757-0227
e-mail: milestones.sun@yourlifemoments.ca

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Obituaries

AUGUSTINE, Bob - Of Niagara on the Lake, formerly of Toronto, on January 18. Retired professor of Russian History, Glendon College, York University. He leaves behind his brother, John (and his wife Sandy); his sister-in-law, Lea; daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret; and sons, Isaac and Alexander. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, their offspring, and many loving friends, including Diann and Herb Lepp. He was predeceased by his parents, Wilson and Elizabeth, and his brother, Davis. All are invited to a funeral and celebration of his life Saturday, Jan 23 at 11 am at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church, 335 Linwell Road, St. Catharines, Ontario. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Mennonite Central Committee (mcc.org) or a charity of your choice. Online condolences at tallmanfuneralhomes.ca.

PATTULLO, Joan – Born May 13, 1916, Barcombe, Sussex, England - Passed away peacefully in her 100th year, surrounded by her loving family on Saturday, January 23, 2016. Predeceased by her daughters Sandra (Dave) 2010 and Dawn 2001. Survived by her son Tony (Suzanne) and daughter Lana (Michael). Cherished grandmother of Davey (Sue), Todd (Julie) Sabrina (Graeme), Dawn (Ken) & Butch. Beloved great-grandmother to Jacob, Ella, Finley, Christopher and Robert. Joan always had a cheeky grin and will be greatly missed.
"Bubbles of laughter may they never burst."
Memorial service to be held at 11:00 am on Friday, January 29th at St. Mark's Anglican Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Donations to Canadian Cancer Society, Breast Cancer Research would be appreciated.

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Remember
with a donation

1-888-939-3333
toll free • 24 hours a day / 7 days a week
www.cancer.ca

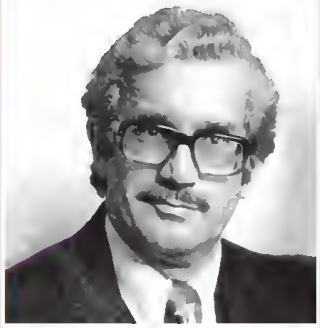
Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne du cancer

In Memoriams

In Loving Memory of
MARION MARINO
who passed away
January 23, 2013

Every day in some small way,
Memories of you come our way.
Though absent, you are ever near,
Still missed, loved, always dear.

In Loving Memory



RUDY BARTEL
January 27, 2012

Unforgettable

Irene & Family

Special In Memoriams

In Loving Memory

EDWARD WILKINSON
January 29, 2006

"Among the Stars"
We seek for guidance among the stars,
to help fill our lonely hearts,
for one we lost so long ago.
Time passes so fast, it was only
yesterday you were by our side.
Can it be ten long years have passed?
In our memories we still hear you laugh.
You are not forgotten
and will always be loved.
So fly among the stars, for that is
where we will look for you above.
Love, Dianne and Family

Prayers

PRAYER to ST. CLARE
3 requests will be granted, for sure 2 impossible ones. Repeat this prayer for 9 days and on the 9th day publish this prayer: *May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified and loved today and everyday. Repeat 3 times and repeat 9 Hail Marys.* E.M.

Personal Notices

Chivalry in VIRGIL!
To the gentlemen who washed my car on Sunday, I'd like to buy you lunch to say thank you. Please leave e msg. for contact at 905-468-3283 ext. 102

Harbour House ranked first in hotels

Harbour House Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake has been recognized as the winner in the Top 25 Hotels in Canada category of the 2016 TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice awards for hotels, ranking first out of 25.

For the 14th year, TripAdvisor has highlighted the world's top properties based on the millions of reviews and opinions collected in a single year from travelers around the globe. Winners were identified in the categories of Top Hotels, Bargain, B&Bs and Inns, Luxury, Service and Small Hotels. The hallmarks of Travelers' Choice winners are remarkable service, quality and value.

"We congratulate the properties that have won Travelers' Choice Hotel awards," said Barbara Messing, chief marketing officer for TripAdvisor. "As travelers consider where to book their next trip, they should be sure to check out these award-winners that have already delighted millions of members of the TripAdvisor community."

To see TripAdvisor traveler reviews and opinions of Harbour House Hotel go to http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g154999-d300474-Reviews-Harbour_House_Hotel-Niagara_on_the_Lake_Ontario.html

Turn to your community newspaper for the issues that affect you and your family.

ADVANCE Notices

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FISH FRY
Public Welcome
Take Out Available
Every Thursday 4:30 - 7:30
New Members Welcome
Royal Canadian Legion
Branch # 124, 410 King Street, NOTL
Hall Rental Available.

BETHANY MENNONITE CHURCH
SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE & SAUSAGE SUPPER

FEB. 9 ~ 5 - 7 pm
Suggested donations - $10/Person ~ $25/Family
100% of donations will go toward
Syrian Refugee Fund at Niagara UM Church
Churches Helping Churches
572 East/West Line & 4 Mile Creek Rd., NOTL
All Are Welcome!
www.bethanymennonite.ca ~ 905-468-3505

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH / HOMER
163 Queenston Road, (Homer Bridge)

BEEF-ON-A-BUN
Potatoe, Pasta, Coleslaw
Salads & Homemade Pies
Friday, January 29
5 - 7 pm
Tickets: $15 at the door

University Women in Niagara
Wednesday, Feb. 10th ~ 2:00 pm
SHAW FESTIVAL
Properties Tour
3 Walker Road, Virgil
Fee: $5.00 per person
Open to the public.
New Members Always Welcome!
For information call Marg 905-468-8333

Fung Loy Kok Taoist Tai Chi™
Beginner Weekend - 108 Moves
January 29, 30, 31
Fri - 7 to 9:30pm, Sat & Sun - 1 to 5:00pm
(registration at 6:30pm Friday)
222 Bunting Road, St. Catharines
Call 905-935-7583
or visit www.taoist.org/niagara
Improve Your Balance • Health • Reduce Stress
®™Trademarks of Certmark Holdings Co. Ltd., used under license by Fung Loy Kok Institute of Taoism. Registered Charity# 11893 4371 RR0001

Place your Coming Event / Community Calendar Social here, with or without a border, Colour, Graphics optional. Include your Logo!
Deadline: Monday 3 pm
Call Anna at 905-468-3283 ext 102

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Brenda@McGarrRealty.com | 905-380-7699

THE McGARR GROUP WELCOMES ... Mary Jo Madera*

Mary Jo has been a life-long resident of the Niagara Region, proudly calling St. Catharines home She is no stranger to Real Estate in Niagara with over 10 years of experience as a landlord. Mary Jo has a background in the Social Services Industry as a Child and Youth Care Worker She is well known in the Region through her many years in the Hospitality Industry. Her compassion and desire to assist Niagara's vulnerable and needy is evident in her continued volunteer work. On a weekly basis she assists Niagara Cathalic Elementary students in developing and improving literacy skills and is a Volunteer Sunday School Teacher at St. Alfred's Church Mary Jo and her family continue to volunteer monthly at Start Me Up Niagara's soup kitchen. A career in Real Estate was the perfect step for Mary Jo and being a part of the McGarr Group gives her the background of over 27 years in this every changing business Mary Jo's large customer base, infectious smile and personality combined with honesty, integrity and drive are a winning combination to calmly guide you through the complex of buying and selling Real Estate

MaryJo@McGarrRealty.com | Office: 905-687-9229 | Direct: 289-214-1772

JOE COSBY*

NEW PRICE!

1909 LAKESHORE RD - NOTL $625,000

VALUE IN THE LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT! Corner property, with commercial zoning beside. Not many properties of this size located in the Old Town borders. House does not show well but is structurally sound, and could be saved. Tremendous opportunity for the right buyer!

Contact Joe today with any questions.
JoeCosby@McGarrRealty.com | 905-321-3454

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** Represented Buyers

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OUR 2015 TOP FIVE!

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905.380.6459
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JAMES Broderick*

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MARLENE Ouwendyk*

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